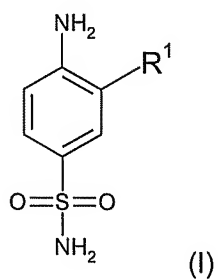


Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

What is claimed is:

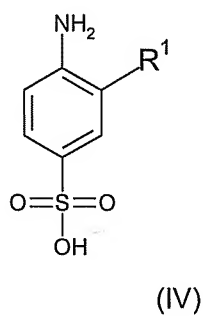
1. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I)



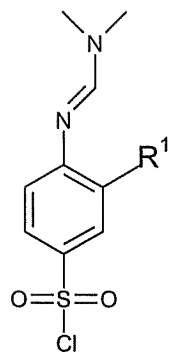
wherein

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, halogen, -CF₃, -NO₂, and C₁₋₈alkyl, and C₁₋₈alkoxy comprising

- i) reacting a compound of formula (IV)

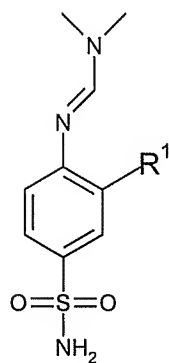


with a suitable formamide in the presence of solvent and a chlorinating agent to form a compound of formula (III)



(III)

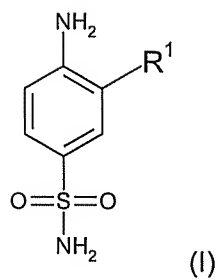
ii) reacting a compound of formula (III) with a solvent and ammonia to form a compound of formula (II),



(II)

iii) deprotecting the compound of formula (II) to form a compound of formula (I).

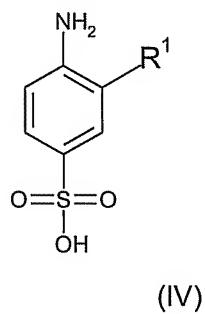
2. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is C₁₋₈alkyl.
3. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I)



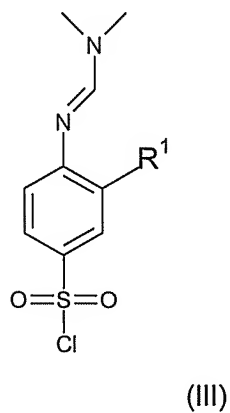
wherein

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, halogen, $-CF_3$, $-NO_2$, and C_{1-8} alkyl, and C_{1-8} alkoxy comprising

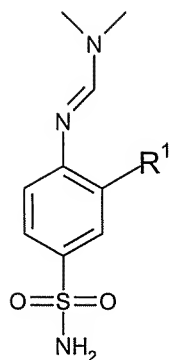
i) reacting a compound of formula (IV)



with *N,N*-dimethylformamide in the presence of methylene chloride and oxalyl chloride to form a compound of formula (III)



ii) reacting a compound of formula (III) with dimethoxyethane and ammonia to form a compound of formula (II),



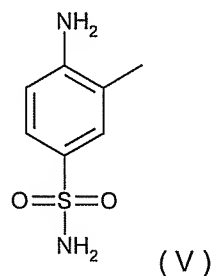
(II)

iii) deprotecting the compound of formula (II) to form a compound of formula (I).

4. (Original) A process according to claim 3 wherein R¹ is C₁₋₈alkyl.
5. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein the solvent of step i) is selected from the group consisting of chloroform, toluene, dimethoxyethane, tetrahydrofuran, dioxane, and methylene chloride.
6. (cancel)
7. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein the chlorinating agent is selected from the group consisting of thionyl chloride, phosphoryl chloride, and oxalyl chloride.
8. (cancel)
9. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein the solvent of step ii) is selected from the group consisting of tetrahydrofuran, dioxane, and dimethoxyethane.
10. (cancel)
11. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein the ammonia is selected from ammonia gas, methanolic ammonia, and ammonium hydroxide.

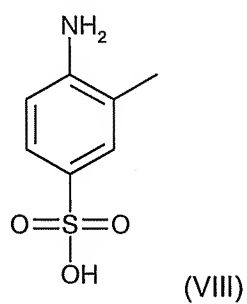
12. (Original) A process according to claim 3 wherein the ammonia is selected from ammonia gas, methanolic ammonia, and ammonium hydroxide.

13. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of the compound of formula (V)

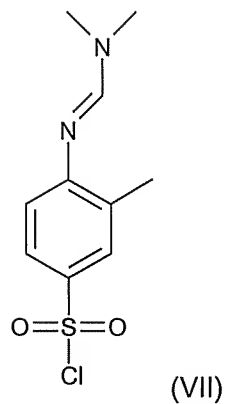


comprising:

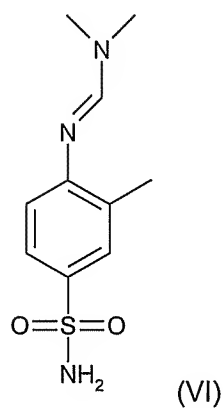
i) reacting a compound of formula (VIII)



with *N, N*-dimethylformamide in the presence of solvent and a chlorinating agent to form a compound of formula (VII)



ii) reacting a compound of formula (VII) with a solvent and ammonium hydroxide to form a compound of formula (VI),



iii) deprotecting the compound of formula (VI) to form a compound of formula (V).

14. (Original) The process according to claim 13, wherein the solvent of step i) is dichloromethane, the chlorinating agent is oxalyl chloride, the ammonia is ammonia hydroxide, and the solvent of step ii) is dimethoxyethane.